

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

January 7, 1999

MINUTES

The Board of Education and the Board of Vocational Education met for the regular business meeting in the Board Room at Richmond City Hall in Richmond, Virginia, on Thursday, January 7, 1999 with the following members present:

Mr. Kirk T. Schroder, President

Mrs. Jennifer C. Byler

Mr. Mark C. Christie

Mrs. Susan T. Noble

Mrs. Ruby W. Rogers

Senator John W. Russell

Mrs. Lil Tuttle

Mr. Paul D. Stapleton, Secretary and
Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr. Schroder, president, presided and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senator Russell gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

WELCOME

Mr. Mark Emblidge, Chairman, Richmond School Board and Dr. Albert Williams, Superintendent of Richmond City Public Schools welcomed Board members to the City School Board Chambers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Byler made a motion for approval of the minutes of the November 19 meeting. Copies of the minutes had been distributed previously to all members of the Board for review. The motion was seconded by Senator Russell and carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Schroder noted that items D and F are final review items. The motion was made by Mrs. Noble, seconded by Mrs. Byler, and carried unanimously for approval of the agenda as corrected.

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was made by Mrs. Noble, seconded by Mrs. Byler, and carried unanimously for approval of the consent agenda.

- Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List
- Final Review of Financial Report on Literary Loan Fund

Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List

The Department of Education's recommendation is that funds for the Craigsville Elementary project for Augusta County be increased by \$750,000 for a total of \$5,000,000. This project was funded through the VPSA interest rate subsidy program in October. This increase is consistent with the amounts funded through that subsidy deal.

The Department of Education also recommended that funding for two projects in the amount of \$9,565,000 be deferred and the projects placed on the First Priority Waiting List.

COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Augusta County	Craigsville Elementary	5,000,000.00
	TOTAL	\$5,000,000.00

First Priority Waiting List

COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Hanover County	Henry Clay Elementary	2,065,000.00
Martinsville City	Albert Harris Int.	7,500,000.00
	TOTAL	\$9,565,000.00

Final Review of Financial Report on Literary Fund

The Department of Education's recommendation to approve the financial report on the status of the Literary Fund as of October 31, 1998, was accepted by the Board of Education's vote on the consent agenda.

DISCUSSION OF CURRENT ISSUES

There was no discussion on current issues.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one spoke during the public comment period.

RESOLUTIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Resolutions were presented to the following students who were members of various teams selected as finalist in the ThinkQuest Internet Challenge:

Amy Sanftleben, Princess Ann High School, Virginia Beach City Public Schools

Dusty Bower, Basset High School, Henry County Public Schools

Alok Bhushan, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology, Fairfax County Public Schools

Justin Chen, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology, Fairfax County Public Schools

Xian Ke, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology, Fairfax County Public Schools

Roger Braunstein, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology, Fairfax County Public Schools

Victoria Rose, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology, Fairfax County Public Schools

Michael Imamura, Langley High School, Fairfax County Public Schools

John Alexander Kulesza, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology, Fairfax County Public Schools.

David Green, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology, Fairfax County Public Schools

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

First Review of Requests for Increased Graduation Requirements

The school boards of Accomack County, Amherst County, Carroll County, King George County, and Manassas City submitted requests for additional requirements for graduation. These requests have been reviewed and the requests from Accomack County, Amherst County, and King George County are clearly consistent with the Board's *Guidance Document Re: Requests for Additional Graduation Credit Requirements and Requests to Allocate Electives from Local School Boards* adopted June 25, 1998. Mr. Christie made a motion to waive first review. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Noble and carried unanimously.

Accomack County

Mr. Christie made a motion to approve the request from Accomack County to increase the number of credits from 22 to 24 for the Standard Diploma and increase the number of credits from 24 to of 27 for the Advanced Diploma. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Noble and carried with five "yes" votes. Mrs. Tuttle opposed and Senator Russell abstained.

Amherst County

Mr. Christie made a motion to approve the request from Amherst County to increase the number of credits from 22 to 24 for the Standard Diploma and deny the request to require all students seeking the Standard Diploma to take Earth Science as one of the three required units of credit. The motion was seconded by Senator Russell and passed with six "yes" votes. Mrs. Tuttle opposed.

Carroll County

Mr. Christie made a motion to approve the request from Carroll County to increase units of credit from 22 to 24 for the Standard Diploma and increase units of credits from 24 to 26 for the Advanced Studies Diploma. The motion was seconded by Senator Russell and passed with six "yes" votes. Mrs. Tuttle opposed.

King George County

King George County requested an increase in the number of credits from 24 to 29 for the Advanced Diploma to include one additional unit of credit in Speech or Drama, one additional unit in Practical Arts—either Computer Applications or Computer Science and three additional elective units of credit. After a lengthy discussion between board members and the Assistant Superintendent, for King George County, who was present at the meeting, it was suggested that this item be placed on the agenda for February. Mr. Schroder designated Mr. Christie as the liaison to work with King George County.

Manassas City

The Manassas City School Board requested an increase of one unit of credit from 22 to 23 units of credit for the Standard Diploma and increase to two units of credit from 24 to 26 for the Advanced Studies Diploma. After a lengthy discussion between Board members, the Superintendent of Manassas City and a member of the Manassas City School Board, it was suggested that this item be placed on February's agenda for final review. Mr. Schroder designated Mr. Christie as THE liaison to work with Manassas City.

Final Review of HJR 243, Student Career Planning

HJR 243 directs the Board of Education to study the feasibility of establishing various methods and tools designed to focus students' attention on future education and career plans. Objectives of the study include determining feasibility, examining state law and regulations, describing resources and best practices available, providing examples of business-education linkages, and formulating recommendations concerning career information and planning in the Commonwealth.

Mr. Schroder appointed a committee consisting of Mrs. Tuttle as chair and Mrs. Byler to review the report. The motion was made by Mrs. Rogers, seconded by Mrs. Noble and carried unanimously for Mrs. Tuttle and Mrs. Byler to take no more than one week to make the necessary changes and submit the report to the General Assembly.

First Review of the Resolution Passed by the Advisory Committee of the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind

The Advisory Commission on the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind was created by act of the 1997 General Assembly. The purpose of the Advisory Commission is to monitor the operations of the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind and to advise the Board of Education and submit recommendations to the Board that ensure the maintenance of a high quality and cost-effective program of study. During the Advisory Commission meeting for the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind on October 19, 1998, a resolution was passed with the recommendation that it be presented to the Board of Education in January 1999.

Mr. Christie made a motion to accept the resolution and forward the motion to the Department of Planning and Budget. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Byler and carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

The following motion was presented and passed at the Advisory Commission Meeting for the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind on October 19, 1998:

The potential for consolidation of the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Staunton and the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind at Hampton is an ongoing issue, and it is not appropriate to make a recommendation on this matter to the 1999 session of the General Assembly. In the interim, we support appropriate funding for the two schools. Factors to consider in the question of consolidation now include the following, and the impact of these factors should be studied before a recommendation is made.

Factors to Consider:

- ▶ *Direct Communication: From IDEA, 1997: Consider the communication needs of the child, and in the case of a child who is deaf or hard of hearing, consider the child's language and communication needs, opportunities for direct communications with peers and professional personnel in the child's language and communication mode, academic level, and full range of needs, including opportunities for direct instruction in the child's language and communication mode.*
- ▶ *Braille: From IDEA, 1997: In the case of a child who is blind or visually impaired, provide for instruction in Braille and the use of Braille unless the IEP Team determines, after an evaluation of the child's reading and writing skills, needs, and appropriate reading and writing media (including an evaluation of the child's future needs for instruction in Braille and the use of Braille), that instruction in Braille or the use of Braille is not appropriate for the child.*
- ▶ *Notification Bill: From Code of Virginia, Chapter 351, § 22.1-217.01: The Department of Education shall annually prepare and distribute to local school boards packets of information describing the educational and other services available through the Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, the Virginia Department for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing, and the Virginia Department for the Visually Handicapped to students who are identified as hearing impaired or visually impaired. Local school boards shall annually distribute this information to the parents of those students who are identified as hearing impaired or visually impaired.*

Therefore, we are requesting that the Board of Education forward this motion to the Department of Planning and Budget, requesting appropriate funding be provided the two schools in the interim of the consolidation issue.

*Senator Emmett W. Hanger, Jr., Co-Chair
Advisory Commission, VA Schools for the Deaf and the Blind*

*Senator W. Henry Maxwell, Co-Chair
Advisory Commission, VA Schools for the Deaf and the Blind*

Final Review of the Board of Education's Annual Report

Mrs. Byler updated Board members on the status of the Board's Annual Report. Senator Russell made a motion to give Mrs. Byler the authority to approve the final edition. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Noble and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Schroder adjourned the meeting of the Virginia Board of Education and the Board of Vocational Education at 11:55 a.m.

President

Secretary of the Board